

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Letters Patent of:
Varun Vasudev et al.

Patent No.: 7,016,307

Issued: March 21, 2006

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR FINDING
RELATED NODES IN A SOCIAL NETWORK

**REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.323 AND PATENT OFFICE MISTAKE (37 CFR 1.322)**

Attention: Certificate of Correction Branch
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Upon reviewing the above-identified patent, Patentee noted a patent office error which should be corrected.

In the Specification:

Column 3, Line 1, Delete "WI-FL" and insert -- WI-FI --.

Enclosed please find a copy of page 3 of the specification.

The following errors were found in the application as filed by applicant. The errors now sought to be corrected are inadvertent typographical errors, the correction of which does not involve new matter or require reexamination.

First page Col. 2 (Other Publications), Line 3, Delete "pp" and insert -- pp. --.


Column 2, Line 46-47 Delete "Short Messaging S, MultiMedia Service (MMS)," and insert -- Short Messaging Service (SMS), Multi-Media Service (MMS),--.

Transmitted herewith is a proposed Certificate of Correction effecting such amendment. Patentee respectfully solicits the granting of the requested Certificate of Correction.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency of up to \$300.00 or credit any excess in this fee to Deposit Account No. 04-0100. Payment of \$100.00 is included herewith.

Dated: May³¹, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION**

Page 1 of 1

PATENT NO. : 7,016,307
APPLICATION NO. : 10/797,966
ISSUE DATE : March 21, 2006
INVENTOR(S) : Varun Vasudev et al.

It is certified that an error appears or errors appear in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

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In one embodiment, pre-processing is performed for a portion of the shortest path that is no longer than a maximum degree of separation (N) divided by some integer that is less than the maximum degree (N/I). In one embodiment, this integer is equal to two so that the pre-processing is provided for a portion of the shortest path that can be equivalent to up to one half of the maximum degree of separation allowed for determining the shortest path between two nodes.

In another embodiment, if a common intermediate node is identified in the pre-processing of the shortest paths for two nodes in the social network, the intermediate shortest paths can be stored for reuse as a complete shortest path between these two nodes.

In one embodiment, the pre-processing of the shortest paths between two nodes could be determined for the communication of a message to one node and/or the broadcast of a message to a plurality of nodes, including but not limited to, email, Short Messaging S, MultiMedia Service (MMS) , Instant Messaging (IM), and the like. In another embodiment, the

Illustrative Operating Environment

FIGURE 1 shows components of an exemplary environment in which the invention may be practiced. Not all the components may be required to practice the invention, and variations in the arrangement and type of the components may be made without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention.

In FIGURE 1, one or more local area networks ("LANs") and/or wide area networks ("WAN") are included in a network 102, such as the Internet, that enables communication between various users, devices, servers, clients, processes, and the like. As shown, client 104, mobile node 106, mail server 110 and social network server 108, are shown employing network 102 to communicate with each other, and the like. Mobile node 106 can couple to network 102 using a wireless communications medium. The mobile node can include a mobile telephone, smart phone, pager, walkie talkie, radio frequency (RF) device, infrared (IR) device, WI-FI device, and integrated devices combining one or more of the preceding devices, and the like.

Although not shown, the LANs and WANs of network 102 are typically interconnected by routers and/or switches. Also, communication links within the LANs and